Wakefield High School's new building built 2011-13 (as taken from 2011 construction proposal)

1. Voters approved a Bond referendum in 2010 for construction of new school. Thank you voters!
2. Last of Arlington's main public high schools to be rebuilt. $118 million, 403,940 square feet, 50 classrooms and other student focused areas for total of 1,900 students. Three story "A" shaped academic structure forms the outstretched "fan" design connected by a series of courtyards to the lower level athletic wing (faces existing stadium). Main floor is aquatics, auditorium, media, offices and town square. Upper 2 floors are classrooms, lower floor is the main gym, lockers and fitness.
3. Two story town hall, the "heart" of building, opens to courtyard. Two bus lanes, parking lot for staff and students.
4. Auditorium seats 625, with orchestra, band, set shop and studio theatre. Media center with 3D art, 2D Art, Photography and Tech Ed. Building complies with accessibility requirements and has 2 elevators.
5. Athletic area with 2 new athletic fields, 2 gyms, 2 pools and a diving well. Existing stadium, tennis courts and soccer fields remain. Once original building demolished baseball and softball fields will be rebuilt.
6. Science Core has 16 updated labs clustered about a central chemical/supply room, labs equipped with data display and access technology.
7. LEED Green Building (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) with Silver Certification required, expect Gold Certification at completion. Geothermal HVAC system with solar hot water panels. Green roof installed over library, administrative offices and town square decreases heat gain, slows run-off and creates a habitat for birds.
8. Storm water landscape provides a rain garden between athletic and academic wings with a bio-retention area off parking lot to create living filters to storm water drainage.
9. Low emitting materials for high indoor air quality.
10. Daylight harvesting. Light sensors that dim artificial light to respond to natural light levels.

Wakefield High Schools original building built 1953-54 on 40 acres (as described in the 1953 booklet)

1. Cost $4.6 million, 4,028,000 cubic feet, 45 classrooms and other learning centers for total of 2,000 students. Complete with 207 paved parking spaces and 2 bus lanes.
2. Auditorium seats 948, with stage 30' X 70'. Large art room with workshop alcove, sinks and kiln.
3. Athletic field with football gridiron, 2 baseball fields, quarter mile track and 100 yard straight-away. Large gym 103' X 110' seats 1,400 on fold away bleachers, a small gym 50' X 70' and hard surface play court 100' X 165' complete with athletic area. Rifle range is on ground floor.
4. Library seats 200 students and is designed with natural light windows on all 4 sides with skylights.
5. Cafeteria able to provide 1,000 hot lunches per period with a walk in freezer.
6. Clinic with exam rooms, resting cots, hearing test area and dental exam/treatment area.
7. Home Economics, has total of 4 units (each unit is space of 3 rooms). Each unit contains sewing & food prep area, dining & living room areas.
8. Shop (Industrial Arts) consists of metal & electricity shop, wood & plastics shop. Transportation area, ceramic area, projection and photographic room.
10. Architect, Rhees Burket, designed the unique window design which encourages "daylighting of classrooms". This design used light diffusing and directional glass block panels that sat atop a vision strip of ventilating sash. 2-Library used natural light windows on all 4 sides and a large skylight.